

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

A NEW CLUBIONID SPIDER OF THE GENUS
PHRURONELLUS FROM CALIFORNIA.

BY RALPH V. CHAMBERLIN.

From Mr. Carl D. Duncan of Stanford University I have received for identification a number of spiders taken from a nest of *Vespa occidentalis* Cresson which was dug up in the vicinity of Stanford University, Calif., in July. "The nest," Mr. Duncan writes, "was a very interesting one in that it had persisted throughout the winter just past instead of dying out in the fall as is customary. There was but a mere handful of wasps left but there were many other forms present, including the spiders I am sending."

Among the spiders were about thirty specimens of the new clubionid described below. The other spiders were all gnaphosids, and all were immature excepting one female of *Nodocion barbaranus* Chamberlin. Some of the immature specimens apparently pertain to the latter species, but most of them belong to *Zelotes*, sp.

Genus *Phruronellus* Chamberlin.

Canadian entomologist, 1921, Mar., p. 69.

The members of this genus have typically shining chestnut or blackish bodies and lack the markings usual in the related genus *Phrurolithus* from which they differ structurally, particularly in the features of the male palpus. They are ground forms often found associated with ants.

The males of the known species may be separated by means of the following key.

KEY TO MALES OF SPECIES OF PHRURONELLUS.

a. Femoral apophysis of palpus proximad of middle.

Ventral (mesal) prong of tibial apophysis long, distally acute.

P. pugnatus (Emerton).



- aa. Femoral apophysis of palpus at or distad of middle.
 - b. Ventral prong of tibial apophysis of palpus broad, laminate, with two equal distal angles.....*P. formica* (Banks).
- bb. Ventral prong of tibia apophysis not of this form.
 - c. This prong rather long, slightly bent at middle, distally truncate.....*P. similis* (Banks).
 - cc. This prong very short, distally acute, with a smaller supplementary tooth.....*P. duncani*, sp. nov.

***Phruronellus duncani*, sp. nov.**

Male.—Specimens in full color have the carapace dusky over a light brown background. Sternum light brown. Legs yellowish. Abdomen black above its venter yellowish. Cephalothorax low, broad, laterally rounded, the pars cephalica wide as usual. Abdomen broadly subovate in outline.

Tibia I with five pairs of long spines beneath, the most distal pair of these well proximad of outer end of joint. Metatarsus I with four pairs of ventral spines.

Femur of male palpus angularly extended ventrad at middle, the apophysis projecting from apex of angle; apophysis bearing a pencil of setae at its free end extending toward distal end of joint. Tibial apophysis furcate as usual; the upper prong geniculate or strongly curved proximally slender and distally acute; lower (mesal) prong very short, slightly curved, a supplementary tooth below apex between it and the upper prong towards which it points.

Length of male, 2 mm.

Locality.—California: Stanford University. 19 July, 1924.